

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for providing wireless data transmission between a modem in a portable computer and a land line, further comprising:

a wireless base station, the wireless base station further comprising:

means to attach to a land line; and

means to communicate with a wireless telephone handset;

the wireless telephone handset further comprising:

means to communicate with the wireless base station; and

means to communicate with a modem in a portable computer;

whereby a portable computer can communicate with a land line via a wireless telephone.

2. An apparatus, as in claim 1, further comprising:

a manual switch, the manual switch located on the wireless telephone handset and further having a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.

3. An apparatus, as in claim 1, further comprising:

a manual switch, the manual switch located on the wireless telephone base station and further having a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.

4. An apparatus, as in claim 1, wherein the land line is a telephone communications network.

5. An apparatus, as in claim 1, wherein the land line is a fiber-optic communications network.

6. An apparatus, as in claim 1, wherein the land line is a coaxial cable communications network.

7. An apparatus, as in claim 1, wherein the means to communicate with the modem in the portable computer further comprises:

a cable connection in the wireless telephone handset; and

a cable having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end of the cable having means to connect to the cable connection in the wireless telephone handset, and the distal end of the cable having means to connect to the modem of a portable computer;

whereby the cable connects the modem of the portable computer to the wireless telephone handset which communicates with the wireless telephone base station which is connected to and communicates with the land line.

8. An apparatus, as in claim 1, wherein the means to communicate with the modem in the portable computer further comprises:

a first wireless transceiver in the wireless telephone handset;

a second wireless transceiver connected to the modem of a portable computer; and

the first and second wireless transceiver having means to communicate with one another;

whereby the first and second wireless transceivers are the data communications path between modem of the portable computer and the wireless telephone handset.

9. An apparatus, as in claim 1, wherein the means to communicate with the modem in the portable computer further comprises:

a first wireless transceiver in the wireless telephone base station;

a second wireless transceiver connected to the modem of a portable computer; and

the first and second wireless transceiver having means to communicate with one another;

whereby the first and second wireless transceivers are the data communications path between modem of the portable computer and the wireless telephone base station.

10. An apparatus, as in claim 9, further comprising a manual switch, the manual switch located in the telephone handset and further having a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.
11. An apparatus, as in claim 9, further comprising a manual switch, the manual switch located in the wireless base station to and further having a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.
12. An apparatus for providing wireless data transmission between a modem in a portable computer and a telephone land line, further comprising:

a telephone, the telephone further comprising:

means to attach to a land telephone line; and

a telephone handset;

an acoustic coupler, further comprising:

means in the acoustic coupler to attach to the telephone handset such that data can be sent bidirectionally through the acoustic coupler to the telephone; and

means to communicate wirelessly with a modem in a portable computer;

whereby the portable computer can wirelessly communicate with the telephone land line via the acoustic coupler and the telephone.

13. A method of providing wireless data transmission between a modem in a portable computer and a telephone land line, including the steps of:

attaching a wireless telephone having a base station and a wireless handset to a land line; and

communicating between the wireless base station and the wireless handset;

communicating between the wireless telephone and a modem in a portable computer;

whereby a portable computer can communicate with a telephone land line via a wireless telephone.

14. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional step of attaching a manual switch to the wireless telephone handset, the manual switch having a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a

data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.

15. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional step of attaching a manual switch to the wireless telephone base station, the manual switch having a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.
16. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional step of using a telephone communications network as the land line.
17. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional step of using a fiber-optic communications network as the land line.
18. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional step of using a coaxial cable communications network as the land line.
19. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional steps of:

the means to communicate with the modem in the portable computer further comprises:

connecting a first end of a cable to the wireless telephone handset; and

connecting a second end of the cable to the modem of a portable computer;

whereby the cable connects the modem of the portable computer to the wireless telephone handset which communicates with the wireless telephone base station which is connected to and communicates with the land line.

20. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional steps of:

communicating between the modem in the portable computer and the wireless telephone by attaching a first wireless transceiver to the wireless telephone handset, and attaching a second wireless transceiver to the modem of a portable computer; and

communicating between the portable computer in the wireless telephone via the first and second wireless transceivers;

whereby the first and second wireless transceivers are the data communications path between modem of the portable computer and the wireless telephone handset.

21. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional steps of:

communicating between the modem in the portable computer and the wireless telephone by attaching a first wireless transceiver to the wireless telephone base station, and attaching a second wireless transceiver to the modem of a portable computer; and

communicating between the portable computer in the wireless telephone via the first and second wireless transceivers;

whereby the first and second wireless transceivers are the data communications path between modem of the portable computer and the wireless telephone handset.

22. A method, as in claim 21, including the additional step of using a manual switch, located in the telephone handset, to switch the wireless telephone between a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.
23. A method, as in claim 21, including the additional step of using a manual switch, located in the wireless telephone base station, to switch the wireless telephone between a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.
24. A method, as in claim 13, including the additional step of using a portable computer to remotely switch the telephone from a voice position in which the wireless telephone is used for voice communications, and a data position in which the wireless telephone is used for data transmission between a computer and a telephone land line.